

"Express Mail" mailing label number EV 314841919.

Date of Deposit 6/23/03

Our File No. 9281/4579
Client Reference No. N US02005

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
)
Naoya Hasegawa et al.)
)
Serial No. To Be Assigned)
)
Filing Date: Herewith)
)
For GMR Magnetic Detecting Element)
Comprising Current Limiting Layer)
Provided in Free Magnetic Layer)
and Method of Manufacturing the)
Detecting Element)

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to the obligation under 37 C.F.R. 1.56 and in conformance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97-1.99, Applicants hereby submit references A1-A4 listed on the attached form PTO-1449 for consideration by the Examiner. Copies of the references are enclosed herewith.

Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication Nos. 2001-273613, 2001-291214 and 2001-155313 disclose magnetic domain control layers are provided at both ends in the track width direction. Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication No. 2001-256617 discloses a magnetic control layer is formed on a pinned magnetic layer, a nonmagnetic layer and a free magnetic layer.

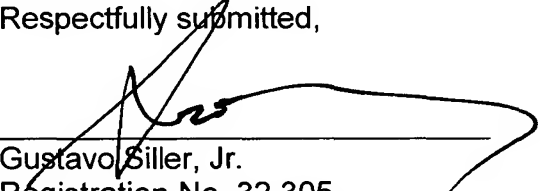
The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement does not constitute an admission that the information cited herein is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. Section 1.56(b). Further, Applicants reserve the right to contest these references as prior art against the present application, and

Applicants do not believe that the disclosure of these references, even if finally determined to be prior art, anticipates Applicants' invention or that these references make Applicants' invention obvious.

No fees are believed to be due in connection with filing of this Information Disclosure Statement, however, should any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 to 1.21 be deemed necessary for any reason relating to this material, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to deduct said fees from Brinks Hofer Gilson & Lione Deposit Account No. 23-1925.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner review the entire disclosure of these documents and make them of record.

Respectfully submitted,



Gustavo Siller, Jr.
Registration No. 32,305
Attorney for Applicants

BRINKS HOFER GILSON & LIONE
P.O. BOX 10395
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60610
(312) 321-4200

FORM PTO-1449 LIST OF PATENTS AND PUBLICATIONS FOR APPLICANT'S INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (use several sheets if necessary)	SERIAL NO.	CASE NO.
	To be Assigned	9281/4579
	FILING DATE	GROUP ART UNIT
Herewith		
APPLICANT(S): Naoya Hasegawa et al.		

REFERENCE DESIGNATION		U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS				
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS/ SUBCLASS	FILING DATE

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS/ SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES	NO
	A1	2001-273613	10/2001	JP		x	
	A2	2001-291214	10/2001	JP		x	
	A3	2001-155313	6/2001	JP		x	
	A4	2001-256617	9/2001	JP		x	
	A						

EXAMINER INITIAL	OTHER ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)					

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
----------	-----------------

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.